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"Nothing is more clearly written in the Book of Destiny, than the Emancipation of the Blacks; and it is equally certain that the two races will never live in a state of equal freedom under the same government, so insurmountable are the barriers which nature, habit and opinion have established between them." JEFFERSON.

SAILING OF THE LIBERIA PACKET.

THIS beautiful vessel left our harbour on Tuesday morning the 11th inst.—having on board a full cargo of merchandize, and her lower cabin full of emigrants. We think we have never known an Expedition gotten off under more favourable circumstances. Notice having been given in the morning papers, that the Rev. Mr. Cook, Pastor of one of the Coloured Churches in Washington, would officiate on the occasion, quite a large and respectable assembly of the coloured people of the City was convened on the wharf by 9 o'clock. The address of Mr. Cook was spoken of as being exceedingly able, and highly appropriate: at its conclusion, the boat containing the emigrants, and their personal baggage, put off for the Barque. At 10 o'clock she weighed anchor, and with a gentle wester, glided down the river like a thing of magic. The morning was remarkably serene and beautiful; and the whole scene peculiarly interesting and impressive. The Barque went to sea on the morning of the 14th, taking the beginning of a ten days north-wester, which promises a more speedy passage than the last. Captain Goodmanson writes from the Capes that "the emigrants are all well, and satisfied with their quarters." God speed them.

GOING TO LIBERIA.

Our readers will perceive we have drawn largely upon the columns of the African Repository, for matter relative to "Going to Liberia," "Cavillings against Colonization replied to," "Outfit of Emigrants," &c. &c., all arranged in due catechetical form, and all of much value and importance.

It might be thought that we should feel some little delicacy in availing ourselves of the labors of the able editor of that journal, in collecting and embodying information with regard to the colony, showing forth the inducements it holds out to the colored man, when we have been so long a resident of Liberia, and are so well acquainted with all appertaining to it. But the fact is, we are tired of telling the truth—of collecting and arranging facts and statistics—of attempting to prove what all the world knows.

As to Liberia itself, it is a part of God's world, subject to his Providence, and possessing upon an average, just about as many advantages and disadvantages as any one other part of this same world. Respecting the kind or character of people best fitted to go there, why, doubtless, those possessing the most energy, industry, mental and physical capacity and moral worth, stand the best chance of success.

As to the "Outfit of Emigrants," the first and all-important requisition is a good share of the "Spirit of the Pilgrims"—a determination to enjoy civil and religious liberty. We have never yet known a man strongly possessed of this feeling, to regret going to Liberia, or express any longing for a return to the flesh pots of Egypt. It is an infallible preventive against any inclination to turn back upon Sodom. As to answering "Objections to going to Liberia," as they are generally made and understood, it is virtually "answering a fool according to his folly." There is but one objection, and that general and universal, against going to Liberia; it is the ground work of all the organized opposition to the Colonization scheme, and of the abuse so liberally heaped upon the Society. It is plainly this;—that equality with the whites,—social and political equality, is attainable in this land, by remaining here, as an unit, and demanding it. This is the creed of the abolition opponents to Colonization, both white and colored. Time, not assertions or reasoning, will prove the soundness or fallacy of this theory. Indications are at present strongly against it.

As to making objections and answering them, disputing this and proving that, like the "making of many books," there seems to be "no end," so "let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter." *Of the some five thousand people who have emigrated to Liberia, we have never known over five, who have lived there a period of two years, voluntarily to leave the colony.* This one fact proves conclusively, that those who do emigrate are *contented*, at least to *remain* in their new homes.

(From African Repository of April.)

INFORMATION ABOUT GOING TO LIBERIA.

For the information of our friends we publish the following *questions* and *answers*. We are constantly receiving letters in which these questions are, in substance, asked. The spirit of inquiry about Liberia and the means of getting there, is becoming every day more and more prevalent and earnest. We have, therefore, for the accommodation of ourselves, and the convenience of friends, condensed the facts into the following form:

Question 1. At what season of the year is it best to embark for Liberia?

Answer 1. The spring or fall is the time our vessels usually leave Norfolk. There is very little, if any choice between these two seasons of the year, as a time to leave this country for Liberia. It is rather more convenient to fit out an expedition at these periods, than at any others, and therefore we have selected them as the best time for the sailing of our vessels. Hereafter it is expected that the LIBERIA PACKET will make two voyages a year, and if business justifies, she will make three.

Q. 2. How long is the voyage, and is there much danger that we shall be lost on the way?

A. 2. The length of the voyage is from thirty to fifty days. The average is about forty days. We hope the Liberia Packet will make a much less average than this. The emigrants ought to be at the port of

embarkation two days before the vessel sails. There is very little danger of being lost.

Q. 3. What ought we take with us, both for use on the voyage and after we get there?

A. 3. Every emigrant ought to be well supplied with clothing, both for summer and winter, similar to what he wears in this country. There is no winter in Liberia, but during the rainy season health is greatly promoted by wearing flannel, or warm clothing. He ought also to have a good mattrass and bed clothes. If he is a mechanic, he ought to have the tools of his trade. If he is a farmer, he ought to be well supplied with axes, hoes, spades, saws, augurs, &c. And as every family is expected to keep house and live for themselves, they ought to have a good supply of table furniture and cooking utensils. It is not possibe for them to take *chairs, tables, bedsteads,* and other large articles of furniture with them, as they occupy too much room in the ship. But whatever is convenient and necessary in housekeeping, and of small compass, they ought to take. A keg of nails, a bale or two of domestics, and some *money,* would be of use to them in erecting their houses and paying for any labour they might need, during the first few months of their residence in Liberia.

Q. 4. How much land is given to each emigrant?

A. 4. By the laws of Liberia, each emigrant on his arrival receives a town lot, or *five* acres of land. If he is the head of a family, the quantity of land is increased according to the number of his family. This allowance may seem small, but it is abundantly sufficient for all his necessities until he is able to buy more for himself, which he can do for $1 an acre.

Q. 5. Can I educate my children there, and what will it cost?

A. 5. By a law of the commonwealth, all parents are required to send their children to school. In some of the settlements the schools are very good. In others they are more indifferent. But a parent who wants to educate his children, can do it better in Liberia than in any other place.

Q. 6. Will the Colonization Society pay my expenses in getting there?

A. 6. The Colonization Society will give a free passage to all who are unable to pay for themselves, and will aid them in supporting themselves during the first six months after they arrive, by furnishing them with provisions and medicines and medical attendance when they are sick, and providing them a house to live in. During these six months they can become acclimated, raise a crop for themselves, build them a house on their own land, open and plant a piece of land, and have everything in readiness to live comfortably thereafter.

Q. 7. How can we make a living in Liberia?

A. 7. In the same way that you would make one any where else; that is, by industry and *economy.*

Those who are competent to teach school, can get from three to four hundred dollars for teaching. Good accountants can get from four to eight hundred dollars as clerks in stores and mercantile houses. Tailors, shoemakers, blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, brickmakers, cabinet makers, shipwrights, &c. &c., can always find employment at good wages.—The *farmer* need fear no want.

This question has been answered by the *Editor* of the *Liberia Herald,* who has lived there many years, and we could not do better than to give his own words, viz:

"For information of our friends, who are constantly and incorrectly asserting in America, 'that Liberians have not any thing else to eat but roots and wild animals,' we have thought proper to give a list of such animals, fruits and edibles as are in general use with us in their appropriate season.

Domesticated.—Cows, bullocks, swine, sheep, goats, ducks, fowls, pigeons, turkeys, (few.)

Wild.—Deer of different kinds in abundance: red, black, brown and grayish; partridge, pigeons, goats, cows, doves, hedge-hogs, red squirrels, summer ducks, rice birds, ground doves, &c.

Fruit.—Water melon, musk melon, mango plums, orange, rose apples, sour sop, guava, tamarind, plaintain, bananas, gramadilla, limes, lemons.

Fish, scaled and shell.—Mullet, whiting, perch, bream, pike, baracouta, mackerel, cursalli, herring, drum, catfish, grippers, oysters, crabs, carp, sun.

Edibles.—Sweet potatoes, arrow root, turnips, carrots, shilote, cymblain chiota, paupa, Lima beans, ochra, peas, radishes, beets, cabbages, snaps, cucumbers, greens, salads, cassavas, yams, corn.

Besides the above there are many others, which we have neither time nor room to arrange here."

A. F. Russel, Esq., of Golah, Liberia, another citizen who has been there for years, writes on the same subject in the Liberia Herald, thus, viz: (He is speaking of what should be said to persons in the U. S., who think of going to Liberia.)

"If they be farmers, point them to the soil, the fertility of which cannot be exaggerated, producing every thing a tropical clime can produce in ample abundance, yet 'by the sweat of the brow.' The arm answering, though not necessarily in all cases, the place of the ox; (oxen can be bought at any time, thank God, for the money, and broke and worked too by those who choose it, and it has been done;) the hoe answering for the plough, if we rather, and in our light soil does almost as well, perhaps. Labor and patience, two-thirds of the labor, too, that it would take to support a man in the United States, will reward the workmen, thirty, sixty, a hundred fold —the profits will sweeten the toil.

A coffee tree once planted and reared, (which takes four years) will yield its increase two crops a year, year after year, bringing its reward with it—a hundred, a thousand, and tens of thousands will do the very same, and certainly the scions, or the seed are to be bought in sufficient quanties in Liberia. Arrow root, ginger, pinders and pepper, grow with almost half trouble, yielding in full abundance if planted. Indigo, &c. grow luxuriantly beyond all possible expectation; and as for fruits, the orange, lime, lemon, sour sop, guava, mango, &c. &c., we place Liberia against any country in the world, and with what a fraction of labor compared with the benefits they yield. Vegetables—the yam, potatoes, cassada, plaintains, Indian corn, beans, peas, &c. &c., useless to mention—time would fail us to tell. Put them in the earth, and they are as sure to produce as the God of nature to bring about the seasons. Still the idle will not have them. The lazy man has no part in this lot of good things. Such truths would do us good. The word *labor* frightens the lazy man, and he will not curse us with his presence and example.—The industrious love that word, or the thing it means, will come determined to do, and coming will conquer and be rewarded."

The Rev. J. B. Pinney, so long and so well known as Governor of Liberia, and since as agent in this country, answers the questions thus, viz:

"No man, by farming, can get a living without labor in any country but in Liberia, there being no snow or frost, or cold to provide against; a large portion of the labor needed here for keeping warm and comfortable, is not needed there, and as it is always summer, much less land will support a family.

Another consideration may here be added, viz: that many important plants and vegetables continue to grow and bear from year to year, with very little cultivation. Our garden Lima beans, *I have seen* covering by its

vines a good sized tree, where it had been growing and constantly bearing for *nine years!* Sweet potato vines are often, when pulled, replanted, and go on to bear more roots. The African potato, or cassada, grows for two years; the cotton plant bears for nine or ten years."

Q. S. Can I be as healthy in Liberia as I am in the United States?

A. S. Probably not. Some constitutions may be more healthy there than here. For old settlers, Liberia is doubtless more healthy than many parts of the United States. The deaths there among such for several years past have not been more than three per cent.

We would here make this general remark, in connection with the last two questions. The great advantages which the colored man gets by going to Liberia, are *not* as to his *eating*, or *drinking*, or *making money*, but in his *social, political* and *moral* condition. He becomes a *man*. He is no longer despised as of another race, but is treated as an equal and a brother, and secures immense privileges for his children.—If colored men cannot understand and appreciate these and such like advantages, it is not worth their while to go to Liberia! Those who can and do appreciate them, and go to Liberia, will never regret it. Of such emigrants, Mr. Russel, whose language we have before quoted, makes the following remarks:

"They not only see that all their labor is their own, every improvement belongs to themselves and children, good sound sense, and industry tells them to go forward and they obey, looking upon Liberia as theirs, and the home of their children; its strength their safety; its wealth their property, and its prosperity their glory, and the salvation from degradation of their children. Such men as these, though they cannot read a word, and perhaps never thought of writing, and perhaps spent much of their time in slavery, are an honor to any country, that would allow them equality. There are some of this stamp in Liberia, men 'worth their weight in gold.' They are industrious men who look forward, who love their children.—Such men are not only good citizens, but patriotic colonists. One thousand of them would make the soil and the ship declare Liberia independent *without a human declaration.* As the hope of Liberia's glory, present as well as future glory, rising before such men, it beckons them onward.—They enjoy 'freedom' in every true sense of that word. They love our laws because they are wholesome, they are ours made by legislators of our choice. They love liberty for what it is, in and of itself.

Free from that oppression, worse, if possible, than that of Israel in Egypt, under which he once groaned, the industrious, public spirited man seizes and holds fast the hope of elevating not only his own, but the name and character of his country.—With life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness with and before him, with a right view of these things, what can hinder this colony from prospering? Or such men from being freemen? It is a startling truth, unless it has become 'a new thing under the sun,' that there is not a free black man from Georgia to Maine. No, nor in the whole United States! Nor will there be very soon, if we must judge 'from the signs of the times.'"

In conclusion, we have one particular request to make, viz: *That all persons intending to emigrate to Liberia, will give us early notice of the time when they will be ready.* It always requires considerable time to arrange necessary preliminaries, and make indispensable preparations: so that it not unfrequently happens that persons almost ready when the vessel sails, are compelled to wait for six months or a year, for the want of a few more days in which to get ready.

We trust that this suggestion will be duly regarded. There are many persons who are making inquiries in regard to the advantages of going to Liberia, who would be much benefitted by the suggestions which many of

our friends might give them, or which they could obtain by opening a correspondence with us on the subject. There are no letters that we receive and answer with more pleasure than those which make inquiries about emigration to Liberia. We trust, therefore, that there will be some special efforts made to place the colored people in possession of the facts relating to their prospects in Liberia. We are expecting soon to send out a large number of the more intelligent and educated class. The present independent position of Liberia, renders this very desirable. They have assumed the entire responsibility of their own government, and will demand all the talent, wisdom and energy they can summon to their aid. We should think that the very most intelligent and wealthy colored people in this country would have some ambition to share in the splendid results, soon to be achieved through the agency of the colonists for Liberia. Surely, to aid in laying the foundation for a great nation, in maturing institutions and laws for the government of a great people, and in redeeming an immense continent from the worst of Pagan darkness and barbarity, is a work infinitely more sublime and glorious than can possibly be performed by any of the colored people in *this country*, however favored may be their position, enlarged their opportunities, and determined their energy and perseverance! When the historian comes to write up the labors of their race, who will stand far above all comparison, if not the bold and successful pioneers in the only successful effort ever made for their social, civil and religious redemption?

Leaving out of view every thing touching their own personal interests, there are considerations connected with their race and the destiny before them, which should induce the most highly favored of them in this country to seek a field of usefulness in Africa. But when we take into consideration that in Liberia is the only place on the face of the earth where they and their children can enjoy the luxury of true freedom, and infinitely advance their social, moral and intellectual interests, is it not marvelous that they still prefer their present inferior and unenviable position among the whites, and still cherish the gross delusions of which they have been made the victims, willing to believe the most fabulous stories about Liberia, and shutting their eyes tightly against all the light which shines upon them, and shows it to be a dictate of wisdom, as well as a demand of duty, for them to go to their fatherland, and be MEN!

We are happy to know, and to have it in our power to inform our friends, that there are some persons intending to go to Liberia, who rightly appreciate the circumstances of their situation, and who are prepared to make themselves useful and rise to a desirable fame, should their lives be spared.

THE OBJECTS OF THE FRIENDS OF COLONIZATION.

1. To rescue the free colored people of the United States from their political and social disadvantages.

2. To place them in a country where they may enjoy the benefits of free government, with all the blessings which it brings in its train.

3. To spread civilization, sound morals and true religion throughout the continent of Africa.

4. To arrest and destroy the slave trade.

5. To afford slave owners, who wish or are willing to liberate their slaves, an asylum for their reception.

There are, doubtless, other objects entertained by some of the advocates of Colonization; but our aim is to represent comprehensively the principal and leading ones; and such as are recognized by all friends of the cause.

COMMON OBJECTIONS TO GOING TO LIBERIA ANSWERED.

We not unfrequently meet with objections to going to Liberia, made honestly by some persons, who have the offer of their fredom, if they will go, and others who are free, and might make good citizens of Liberia. We therefore propose to give their objections a candid hearing, and see if they cannot be removed, viz:

Objection 1. I do not want to go where there are no white people. I do not believe in the control of negroes. I have seen too much of them. They will never do for me.

Answer 1. This objection argues a very bad state of mind in him who makes it. It shows that he has not a decent self-respect, or that he has very inadequate ideas of the capabilities of his race. If his ideas of *negro* government have been formed from the conduct of some colored overseer on a plantation, then he ought to know that a government of law and order, regularly established and administered by colored men, for their own mutual benefit, is another and a very different thing. And if he has the principles and character of a man, he may stand a fair chance of rising to the head of the government, and then surely he need not complain of undue rigor.

O. 2. I do not want to go there to die. Every body dies there. It is too sickly for me. If I do not die naturally, the wild beasts will eat me up. I cannot live among snakes and alligators.

A. 2. For acclimated-emigrants, Liberia is as healthy as any other country. Their bills of mortality show this. The census published and circulated so widely in all parts of this country proves it.

And farther than this, there is very little danger of dying in the process of acclimation, if the patient takes proper care of himself. Of the emigrants sent out during the last five years, not *one* in *twenty* has died from the effects of acclimating fever.

We have never heard of a single colonist having been eaten up by the wild beasts, and think, therefore, that there must be some mistake as to the danger from that source.

O. 3. I have heard that the colonists are engaged in the *slave trade*, and I never could stand that.

A. 3. We can hardly speak gravely in answer to this objection. We ately heard of a gentleman of some distinction, who had been on board of ne of our men-of-war on the African coast, and therefore claimed to be vell informed as to the actual state of things at Liberia, and who said that t was generally believed that the colonists were engaged in the slave trade; nd he mentioned the name of one person, of whose participation in that norrible traffic there was no doubt. But it so happened that we knew the said person, and that he had not been in Liberia for several years, and that he is now residing in the city of Philadelphia.

By the laws of Liberia, it is a capital offence to be engaged in the slave trade. And not only are the colonists entirely free from blame, and above suspicion in this matter, but they have also exerted a redeeming influence upon the native tribes in their vicinity. One of the first articles in all the treaties made with the natives, binds them to abandon forever all participation in the slave trade. It is a fact, which is notorious, that the establishment of Liberia has driven the slave trade entirely away from more than three hundred miles along the sea coast, with the exception of one single factory.

It is, therefore, entirely too late in the day to charge this crime on the colonists.

O. 4. They have to eat *roots* there. They cannot get any bacon and cabbage there, nor any thing like what we live on here.

A. 4. Is there anything in the climate or soil of Liberia that should make *roots* more unwholesome or unpalatable as an article of food there than they are in this country? It is a fact that they eat *roots* there, and so they do here, and in the form of sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, turnips, &c. They are here generally much admired, and we see no good reason why the same thing should not be true of them in Liberia.

There is no danger of starvation in Liberia. There is no difficulty in getting plenty to eat, of good wholesome food. It is true that some articles of diet eaten here cannot be gotten there without much inconvenience. But it is also true that there are many vegetables and fruits there, which are not found here; and that nature has furnished an abundant supply of the kind of food best calculated to promote the health and comfort of people living on that soil, and in that climate.

O. 5. If I go there and do not like it, they will not let me come away again.

A. 5. It is not true that the Society does not allow any body to return, when once they have gone to Liberia. Every colonist there is as free to stay, or leave and go where he pleases, as any individual in this, or any other country, can possibly be. We have no control over them. They are responsible to themselves. They may go away any day they chose.

O. 6. I have no money to begin with, if I go there, and I know I could not get along that way.

A. 6. It is true, that it would be very desirable for every colonist to have a little money to begin life with in that new world. But it is not indispensable. A majority of the present colonists commenced there without a cent. Many of them have risen to considerable wealth, and all who have practiced any industry or economy, now enjoy an abundance. A good character and a willingness to work, are of more value than a fortune without them. There is, perhaps, no place in the world where a family can be supported with less labor than in Liberia. The earth produces abundantly, and almost perpetually, and with very little labor in the cultivation. There is, therefore, no difficulty in living well, even without any money to begin with.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Of his Excellency, J. J. ROBERTS, *President of the Republic of Liberia. Delivered at the first meeting of the Legislature of the Republic, January, 3d*, 1848.

By the Liberia Packet we received the following very interesting document, which we have great pleasure in laying before our readers. It is a noble address, worthy of any body:

FELLOW CITIZENS;—Before I proceed to add the solemnity of an oath to the obligations imposed on me, it is with great pleasure I avail myself of the occasion, now presented, to express the profound impressions made on me by the call of my fellow citizens to the station, and the duties, to which I am now about to pledge myself. So distinguished a mark of confidence, proceeding from the deliberate suffrage of my fellow citizens,

would, under any circumstances, have commanded my gratitude and devotion; as well as filled me with an awful sense of the trust to be assumed. But I feel particularly gratified at this evidence of the confidence of my fellow citizens, inasmuch as it strengthens the impression on me that my endeavors to discharge faithfully the duties which devolved on me as Chief Executive officer of the Commonwealth, during the last six years of our political connection with the American Colonization Society, have been favorably estimated, I nevertheless meet the responsibilities of this day with feelings of the deepest solicitude. I feel, fellow citizens, that the present is a momentous period in the history of Liberia; and I assure you, under the various circumstances which give peculiar solemnity to the crisis, I am sensible that both the honor and responsibility allotted to me, are inexpressibly enhanced.

We have just entered upon a new and important career. To give effect to all the measures and powers of the government, we have found it necessary to remodel our Constitution and to erect ourselves into an independent State; which, in its infancy is exposed to numberless hazards and perils, and which can never attain to maturity, or ripen into firmness, unless it is managed with affectionate assiduity, and guarded by great abilities; I therefore deeply deplore my want of talents, and feel my mind filled with anxiety and uneasiness to find myself so unequal to the duties of the important station to which I am called. When I reflect upon the weight and magnitude now belonging to the station, and the many difficulties which, in the nature of things, must necessarily attend it, I feel more like retreating from the responsible position, than attempting to go forward in the discharge of the duties of my office.

Indeed, gentlemen of the Legislature, if I had less reliance upon your co-operation, and the indulgence and support of a reflecting people, and felt less deeply a consciousness of the duty I owe my country, and a conviction of the guidance of an all wise Providence in the management of our political affairs,—I should be compelled to shrink from the task.—I, however, enter upon the duties assigned me, relying upon your wisdom and virtue to supply my defects; and under the full conviction that my fellow citizens at large, who, on the most trying occasions, have always manifested a degree of patriotism, perseverance and fidelity, that would reflect credit upon the citizens of any country, will support the government established by their voluntary consent, and appointed by their own free choice.

While I congratulate my fellow citizens on the dawn of a new and more perfect government, I would also remind them of the increased responsibility they too have assumed.

Indeed, if there ever was a period in the annals of Liberia, for popular jealousy to be awakened, and popular virtue to exert itself, it is the present. Other eras, I know, have been marked by dangers and difficulties which "tried men's souls," but whatever was their measure, disappointment and overthrow have generally been their fate. That patriotism and virtue which distinguish men, of every age, clime and color, who are determined to be free, never forsook that little band of patriots—the pioneers in this noble enterprise—in the hour of important trial. At a time, when they were almost without arms, ammunition, discipline, or government—a mere handful of isolated christian pilgrims, in pursuit of civil and religious liberty, surrounded by savage and warlike tribes bent upon their ruin and total annihilation—with "a staff and sling" only, as it were, they determined in the name of the "Lord of Hosts" to stand their ground and defend themselves to the last extremity against their powerful adversary. And need I remind you, fellow citizens, how signally Almighty God delivered them,

and how he has hitherto prospered and crowned all our efforts with success.

These first adventurers, inspired by the love of liberty and equal rights, supported by industry and protected by Heaven, became inured to toil, to hardships, and to war. In spite, however, of every obstacle, they obtained a settlement, and happily, under God, succeeded in laying here the foundation of a free government. Their attention, of course, was then turned to the security of those rights for which they had encountered so many perils and inconveniences.—For this purpose a constitution or form of government, anomalous it is true, was adopted.

Under the circumstances, expediency required that certain powers of the government should be delegated to the American Colonization Society, their patrons and benefactors—with the understanding that whenever the colonies should feel themselves capable of assuming the whole responsibility of the government, that institution would resign the delegated power, and leave the people to the government of themselves.

At that time it was scarcely supposed, I presume, that the colonies would advance so rapidly as to make it necessary, or even desirable on the part of the colonists, to dissolve that connection within the short space of twenty-five years; such, however, is the case: necessity has demanded it.

Under the fostering care of the American Colonization Society, these infant settlements soon began to prosper and flourish; and a profitable trade, in a few years, opened an intercourse between them and the subjects and citizens of foreign countries. This intercourse eventually involved us into difficulties with British traders, and of consequence with the British government, which could not be settled, for the want of certain powers in the government here, not provided for in the Constitution.—Nor indeed would the British government recognize in the people of Liberia the rights of sovereignty—"such as imposing custom dues and levying taxes upon British commerce"—so long as their political connection with the Colonization Society continued. Under these circumstances, a change in our relations with the Society, and the adoption of a new Constitution, were deemed, by a large majority of the citizens of the Commonwealth absolutely necessary. Such also was the opinion of the Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society, who recommended the measure as the only means of relieving the government from these embarrassments, and the citizens from innumerable inconveniences.

In view of these facts, to have shrunk from the responsibility, notwithstanding weighty reasons, adverse to the measure suggested themselves, would have betrayed a weakness and timidity unbecoming freemen.

Therefore, on full consideration of all the circumstances, it appeared that the period had arrived when it became the duty of the people of Liberia to assume a new position:—such a one that foreign powers would consider them an independent nation.

As you are aware, fellow citizens, the independence of Liberia has been the subject of much speculation, and some animadversion, both at home and abroad.

1st. We are told that the pecuniary assistance the government here has hitherto received from the Colonization Society will now cease; and that in a few years we will find ourselves groaning under enormous taxes, or the affairs of the government will be exceedingly embarrassed, if not totally paralyzed.

I am persuaded, however, that this conclusion by no means follows. To what extent, if at all, the Society contemplates withdrawing the pecuniary aid hitherto granted to the commonwealth, from the new government, I am

not advised; nor have I any data upon which to form even an opinion in regard to it. We have this assurance, however, from Rev. Mr. McLain, Secretary of the Society, "That the interest of the Board of Directors, in all that concerns the people of Liberia, will not be diminished—but rather increased—by the alteration in the present relations subsisting between them and the American Colonization Society; and that it is the intention of the Society to prosecute its work as vigorously as heretofore, and on the same high and liberal principles."

We are truly, fellow citizens, under many obligations to the Colonization Society; indeed, it is impossible for one people to have stronger ties upon the gratitude of another, than that Society has upon the people of Liberia.

To the wisdom, philanthropy and magnanimity of the members of the Colonization Society, who, for more than a quarter of a century, have watched with the deepest solicitude the progress of these colonies, and have devoted much of their time and substance to support them, we owe, under God, the political, civil and religious liberty and independence we this day enjoy; and I have no doubt in my own mind, but that they will continue to aid us in every way the circumstances of the Society will admit of.

The necessity of imposing additional taxes upon the people to meet the additional expenses of the government, consequent upon the new order of things, is very evident; but I confess, fellow citizens, I can see no just grounds of fear that they will be enormous or oppressive.

It is true, that for the first few years, in the absence of any foreign assistance, we may find our finances somewhat limited; perhaps barely sufficient to defray the ordinary expenses of the government; but in a country like ours, abounding in a sufficiency of natural resources which are so easily developed, it is scarcely probable that the government at any time will be greatly embarrassed—certainly not totally paralyzed.

2dly. It has been urged that the numerical strength of the government is yet too small; and that we have not sufficient intelligence, experience, or wealth, to command respect abroad; and that in the event foreign powers should refuse to acknowledge our independence, the embarrassments of the government, and its citizens, will be increased rather than diminished.

Now, according to the best computation I am at present able to make—and which I believe is pretty nearly correct—the population of Liberia proper—including, of course, the aboriginal inhabitants who have incorporated themselves with us, and subscribed to the constitution and laws of the Republic—is now upwards of eighty thousand; and we may reasonably suppose that the inhabitants will increase almost in the ratio of compound interest. I have no doubt that the natural population of the Republic, in the course of twenty years, will be doubled; and we have great reason to believe that the number of emigrants arriving from America, and perhaps other countries, will also be very considerable. The free people of colour in the United States, wearied with beating the air to advance themselves to equal immunities with the whites in that country, and tired of the oppression which weighs them down *there*, are seriously turning their attention to Liberia as the only asylum they can flee to and be happy.

While we exceedingly lament the want of greater intelligence, and more experience to fit us for the proper, or more perfect management of our public affiairs, we flatter ourselves that the adverse circumstances under which we so long labored in the land of our birth; and the integrity of our motives will plead our excuse for our want of abilities: and that in the candor and charity of an impartial world, our well-meant, however feeble,

efforts will find an apology. I am also persuaded that no magnanimous nation will seek to abridge our rights, or withhold from the Republic those civilities, and "that comity which marks the friendly intercourse between civilized and independent communities"—in consequence of our weakness and present poverty.

And with respect to the independence of Liberia, I know it to be a favorable object with many great and good men, both in Europe and in the United States; and I have great reason to believe with several European powers, who entertain commercial views.

3d. We are gravely accused, fellow-citizens, of acting prematurely and without due reflection, in this whole matter, with regard to the probable consequences of taking into our own hands the whole work of self-government, including the management of our foreign relations; and I have also heard it remarked that fears are entertained, by some persons abroad, that the citizens of Liberia, when thrown upon their own resources, will probably not sustain the government, and that anarchy and its attendant ruins will be the result of their independence.

The impression, however, that the people have acted prematurely, and without regard to consequences, is evidently erroneous. And, to judge of the future from the past, I have no hesitancy in asserting that the fears entertained respecting the disposition of the people here to insubordination, are totally groundless. No people, perhaps, have exhibited greater devotion for their government and institutions, and have submitted more readily to lawful authority than the citizens of Liberia; which, indeed, must be obvious to every one at all familiar with the past history of these colonies. But to return. It is well known that the object of independence has been agitating the public mind for more than five years, and that every consideration for, and against it, has been warmly discussed.

I am sensible, however, it is no uncommon thing for men to be warm in a cause, and yet not know why it is they are warm. In such cases the passion of one is lighted up by the the passion of another, and the whole circle is in a flame; but the mind in the meantime is like a dark chamber, without a single ray of light to pervade it; in this case it will happen, that when the hasty passion shall have spent its force, all virtuous and patriotic resolutions which it kindled up will also die with it. As in the great affairs of religion, a strong flash of ideas on the fancy may excite a combustion of devotion; but unless the reason is engaged to feed and supply the burning, it will die away, and neither light nor heat will be found remaining in it.

It was the commendation of a certain people of whom we read in the Bible, that when the gospel was first preached to them, "they searched the Scriptures daily, whether these things were so." Those who, without examination, had received it, without examination might also give it up; but this more "honorable" people had maturely weighed the doctrine, and embracing it, they gave ground to believe, that as they were rational, so they would be persevering Christians.

The political concerns of Liberia have been equally the objects of attentive consideration. And it affords the most pleasing reflection that the people of these colonies have not acted rashly or unadvisedly with respect to their independence; but all the measures which have been adopted in regard to it, are strongly marked with great caution and matured deliberation, and will bear the strictest scrutiny of reason and conscience.

The time has been, I admit, when men—without being chargeable with timidity, or with a disposition to undervalue the capacities of the African race, might have doubted the success of the Colonization enterprise, and

the feasibility of establishing an independent Christian state on this coast, composed of and conducted wholly by colored men,—but, fellow-citizens, that time has past. The American Colonization Society has redeemed its pledge, and I believe in my soul, that the permanency of the government of the Republic of Liberia is now fixed upon as firm a basis as human wisdom is capable of devising. Nor is there any reason to apprehend that the Divine Disposer of human events, after having separated us from the house of bondage, and led us safely through so many dangers, towards the land of liberty and promise, will leave the work of our political redemption, and consequent happiness, unfinished; and either permit us to perish in a wilderness of difficulties, or suffer us to be carried back in chains to that country of prejudices, from whose oppression he has mercifully delivered us with his outstretched arm.

And, fellow-citizens, it must afford the most heartfelt pleasure and satisfaction to every friend of Liberia and real lover of liberty in general, to observe by what a fortunate train of circumstances and incidents the people of these colonies have arrived at absolute freedom and independence. When we look abroad and see by what slow and painful steps, marked with blood and ills of every kind, other states of the world have advanced to liberty and independence, we cannot but admire and praise that all gracious Providence, who, by his unerring ways, has, with so few sufferings on our part, compared with other states, led us to this happy stage in our progress towards those great and important objects. And that it is the will of Heaven that mankind should be free, is clearly evidenced by the wealth, vigor, virtue and consequent happiness of all free states. But the idea that Providence will establish such governments as he shall deem most fit for his creatures, and will give them wealth, influence and happiness, without their efforts, is palpably absurd. In short, God's moral government of the earth is always performed by the intervention of second causes. Therefore, fellow-citizens, while with pious gratitude we survey the frequent interpositions of Heaven in our behalf, we ought to remember, that as the disbelief of an overruling Providence is atheism, so an absolute confidence of having our government relieved from every embarrassment, and its citizens made respectable and happy by the immediate hand of God, without our own exertions, is the most culpable presumption. Nor have we any reason to expect that he will miraculously make Liberia a paradise, and deliver us, in a moment of time, from all the ills and inconveniences consequent upon the peculiar circumstances under which we are placed, merely to convince us that he favors our cause and government.

Sufficient notifications of his will are always given, and those who will not then believe, neither would they believe, though one should rise from the dead to inform them. Who can trace the progress of these colonies, and mark the incidents of the wars in which they have been engaged, without seeing evident tokens of providential favor. Let us, therefore, inflexibly persevere in exerting our most strenuous efforts, in an humble and rational dependence on the great Governor of all the world, and we have the fairest prospects of surmounting all the difficulties which may be thrown in our way. And that we may expect, and that we shall have difficulties, sore difficulties yet to contend against, in our progress to maturity, is certain:—And, as the political happiness or wretchedness of ourselves and our children, and of generations yet unborn, is in our hands; nay, more, the redemption of Africa from the deep degradation, superstition and idolatry, in which she has so long been involved, it becomes us to lay our shoulders to the wheel, and manfully resist every obstacle which may oppose our progress in the great work which lies before us. The Gospel,

fellow citizens, is yet to be preached to vast numbers inhabiting this dark continent, and I have the highest reason to believe, that it was one of the great objects of the Almighty in establishing these colonies, that they might be the means of introducing civilization and religion among the barbarous nations of this country; and to what work more noble could our powers be applied, than that of bringing up from darkness, debasement and misery, our fellow men, and shedding abroad over them the light of science and christianity.—The means of doing so, fellow citizens, are in our reach, and if we neglect or do not make use of them, what excuse shall we make to our Creator and final Judge? This is a question of the deepest concern to us all, and which, in my opinion, will materially effect our happiness in the world to come. And surely, if it ever has been incumbent on the people of Liberia to know truth and to follow it, it is now. Rouse, therefore, fellow-citizens, and do your duty like men; and be persuaded that Divine Providence, as heretofore, will continue to bless all your virtuous efforts.

But if there be any among us dead to all sense of honor and love of their country; if deaf to all the calls of liberty, virtue and religion; if forgetful of the benevolence and magnanimity of those who have procured this asylum for them, and the future happiness of their children; if neither the examples nor the success of other nations, the dictates of reason and of nature, or the great duties they owe to their God, themselves, and their posterity, have no effect upon them;—if, neither the injuries they received in the land whence they came, the prize they are contending for, the future blessings or curses of their children, the applause or reproach of all mankind, the approbation or displeasure of the great Judge, or the happiness or misery consequent upon their conduct, in this and a future state, can move them; then let them be assured that they deserve to be slaves, and are entitled to nothing but anguish and tribulation. Let them banish, forever, from their minds, the hope of ever obtaining that freedom, reputation and happiness, which, as men, they are entitled to. Let them forget every duty, human and divine, remember not that they have children, and beware how they call to mind the justice of the Supreme Being; let them return into slavery and hug their chains, and be a reproach and a by-word among all nations.

But I am persuaded, fellow-citizens, that we have none such among us;—that every citizen will do his duty and exert himself to the utmost of his abilities to sustain the honor of his country, promote her interests, and the interests of his fellow-citizens, and to hand down unimpaired to future generations, the freedom and independence we this day enjoy.

As to myself, fellow-citizens, I assure you I never have been indifferent to what concerns the interests of Liberia—my adopted country;—and I am sensible of no passion which could seduce me knowingly from the path of duty or of justice: the weakness of human nature and the limits of my own understanding may, no doubt will, produce errors of judgment. I repeat, therefore, that I shall need all the indulgence I have hitherto received at your hands. I shall need too the favor of that Being, in whose hands we are, who has led us, as Israel of old, from our native land and planted us in a country abounding in all the necessaries and comforts of life; who has covered our infancy with his Providence, and to whose goodness I ask you to join with me in supplications, that he will so enlighten the minds of your servants, guide their councils and prosper their measures, that whatsoever they do shall result in your good, and shall secure to you the peace, friendship and approbation of all nations.

(From the Liberia Advocate.)

LOTT CAREY—THE FIRST AMERICAN COLORED MISSIONARY TO AFRICA.

This individual was born a slave, in lower Virginia, and, when a young man, was hired out, as a common laborer, in Richmond. His parents were pious slaves; but at this time he was given to the most profane and intemperate habits. About the year 1807, he was awakened by hearing a sermon on the interview of Nicodemus with our Saviour, John iii., and he immediately obtained a Testament, and commenced learning to read, by studying that chapter. He very soon learned to read and to write, so that he became superintendent of all the hands in the largest tobacco warehouse in Richmond, and had to receive, weigh, mark and discharge whatever came there. And here his uniform kindness to his fellow-laborers—his industry, meekness, probity, correctness and good sense, notwithstanding his decidedly African colour, features, &c., commanded the sincere affection, and unfeigned respect of all around him. As a member of the 1st Baptist Church, having connected himself with it, (at the time about twelve hundred members, now twenty-five hundred,) he soon received permission, as an exhorter or preacher, to hold meetings with colored people in the city and country adjacent, and labored much among them.

In the fall of 1813, Rev. Luther Rice, (having just returned from the East,) was instrumental in awakening the Baptist denomination on the subject of Missions; and particularly to the support of Rev. A. Judson, whom he had left at the Isle of France. In November, of that year, the Richmond Foreign Mission Society was formed, and delegates were sent the succeeding spring to Philadelphia, when the Baptist Triennial Convention of the United States was organized. These missionary measures having excited a deep interest among the white members of the Church, were effectual in stirring up the colored members, also, in behalf of their own race, in Africa; and on Easter Monday, 1815, the Richmond African Baptist Missionary Society was formed with the sole object of sending the Gospel to Africa.—Lott Carey was the most efficient individual in originating it, and was its first recording secretary. For four years their annual meetings were held on Easter Monday; and funds had accumulated in the hand of the Treasurer to the amount of some seven hundred dollars, while no individuals had yet offered to go out as missionaries, and no definite plan had been fixed on to locate them. In 1817 the American Colonization Society sent Messrs. Mills and Burgess to explore the coast of Africa, near Sierre Leone, with a view to planting their colony there; and the excellent Rev. Samuel J. Mills died on their return passage from African fever, a martyr in the cause of Africa. Mr. Burgess published their interesting journal, and a copy of this, when shown to Carey produced the decided remark from him, that "He had long been determined to remove to Africa himself," and Collin Teage, who went to Africa with him, expressed a similar determination. A letter written by one of their friends, shortly after, to Rev. O. B. Brown, a member of the Colonization Society Board in Washington, giving an account of them, produced a resolution to receive them as colonists—and the same letter presented to the Board of the Baptist Triennial Convention, produced their appointment as missionaries to Africa. Circumstances not under their control, however, prevented their departure till January, 1821—but this interval was mostly devoted to improvement for their work in Africa.—The ship Elizabeth sailed with the first emigrants, from New York, in February, 1820, with a devoted, excellent man, Rev. Samuel Bacon, to lead them. He and many more soon

fell victims to the African Fever; but the writer would save from oblivion, a specimen of the spirit which inspired some of the early martyrs in this great cause. In a long letter, after giving his plans of interesting the native chiefs, by raising schools for their children, &c., he remarks, "but this is all theory and expectation. I know that there is time, and distance, and storm, and ocean, and danger, and doubt, between me and my object. I, however, am blessed with a knowledge of, and faith in Him whose voice is obeyed, and whose word is fulfilled by all these."

In January, 1821, Carey and Teage, with many more emigrants, sailed in the Nautilus, from Norfolk. A few nights before they left Richmond, Carey and wife, Teage and wife, and three sons, Hilary Teage, now editor of the Liberia Herald, and old Joseph Sandford and wife, seven in all, met in a private room, in my house, and with Rev. David Roper to aid them, formed and signed a church covenant, and this little body is now the first Baptist Church in Monrovia; it has been the mother of nine or ten other churches; and also of the Providence Baptist Association in Liberia;—May it live a thousand years. A few nights previous to their departure, Carey preached his farewell sermon, from Rom. viii. 32, and the writer certainly never listened to a sermon with greater interest. At parting, he bade adieu to his Richmond friends, with the most manly expressions of affection and gratitude, and corresponded regularly with them, and received supplies for his schools, &c., from them till his death in November, 1828. But his memory is embalmed with the name of Liberia. His self-denying, self-sacrificing labors—as a self-taught physician—as a missionary, and pastor of a church—and finally, as Governor of the Colony, have inscribed his humble name indelibly on the page of history, not only as one of "Nature's noblemen," but as an eminent philanthropist and missionary of Jesus Christ.

A brief biography was published of him some years ago, by Rev. James B. Taylor, of Richmond, which, if not out of print, may be had from the Baptist Publication Society, in Philadelphia.

New Orleans, Feb. 24, '48. WM. CRANE.

NOTICE.

In addition to the standing advertisement of the Chesapeake and Liberia Trading Co., the Agent finds it necessary to make the following regulations, viz:

No freight of the bulk of five bbls. will be taken, unless contracted for, five days previous to the sailing of the Packet. Freight to Liberia, expenses to, and in Baltimore on all packages, not otherwise contracted for, must be pre-paid to the Agent. Also postage on letters and packages coming through the U. S. Mail. In case these terms are not strictly complied with, the letters or packages will not be forwarded by the Packet.

These regulations are made necessary from the great influx immediately before the sailing of the Packet, of packages of merchandize, bundles and parcels, contents unknown, directed to unknown and irresponsible persons in Liberia, perhaps residents of the interior settlements, of whom it is often hopeless to collect the freight. In many instances, too, the postage or freight to this office remains unpaid, as well as the expenses of drayage, wharfage, &c., in this city. Expenses thus accruing amount to little in individual instances, but in the aggregate are too large to be borne by the Co.

Baltimore, April, 1848. JAMES HALL, *Ag't. C. & L. T. Co.*